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TRANSMITTAL FORM (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)	Application Number	09/770,003	
	Filing Date	January 25, 2001	
	First Named Inventor	William Girzone	
	Art Unit	2882	
	Examiner Name	George Y. Wang	
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	9	Attorney Docket Number	Girzone 2

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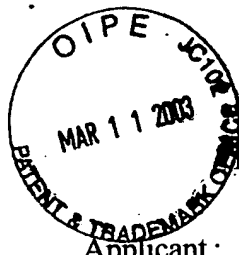
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Reply under 37 CFR 1.116 -
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

#9/Amend B
4/30/07
H/E
CP

Applicant: William Girzone

Art Unit: 2882

Serial No.: 09/770,003

Examiner: George Y. Wang

Filed: 1/25/2001

Docket No.: Girzone 2

Title: GAS BLOCKING DEVICE FOR OPTICAL FIBER REPEATER

Box AF

Assistant Commissioner for Patents

Washington, DC 20231

AMENDMENT/REPLY AFTER FINAL UNDER 37 CFR § 1.116

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated December 3, 2002, please amend the application as follows and consider the following remarks.

In the Claims:

Please replace claim 1 as follows:

1. (Amended) An optical fiber device comprising:

a housing having a wall, wherein said housing is vacuum drawn and pressurized with a gas to prevent moisture from entering said housing;

an optical fiber holding tube extending through said wall and having a first end and a second end, said first end of said optical fiber holding tube contained in said housing and said second end of said optical fiber holding tube located outside of said housing;

a plurality of optical fibers extending from said first end of said optical fiber holding tube to said second end of said optical fiber holding tube without interruption; and

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